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This kind of snake is regarded as a common meal in the interior of his province, and it is doubtful whether it was caused by the snake or something else. Very likely it seems that to catch the snake some poison was posted.

Soon after this headache and fever started, and in a few weeks on various parts of the body appeared deep flesh-penetrating sores. In such condition I received the patient. Abdomen, chest, face, and hands show 17 sores.

He is not leprous, but I took him as an extraordinary case. Treatment three weeks. Patient improving rapidly. Recovery in about two weeks.

The foregoing is respectfully submitted.

Respectfully,

ROBERT M. MCWADE,
United States Consul.

P. S.—Through Dr. Razlag's sickness and absence in Hongkong, this report was delayed awaiting his final corrections.

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

NOTE.—For previous notices of Dr. Razlag's work see PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS for July 25, page 1743, and August 8, page 1839, for year 1902.

Report from Hongkong.

P. A. Surg. John McMullen reports, December 16, as follows: Week ended December 13, 1902. Nine vessels were inspected; 159 steerage passengers and 535 crew were bathed at the disinfecting station, and 821 pieces of baggage were disinfected. Two cases and 2 deaths (Chinese) from cholera were reported in the colony during the time covered by this report. For the same period there were 2 cases of enteric fever reported and 1 case of diphtheria—all European—with no deaths.

THE SURGEON-GENERAL.

CUBA.

Revocation of military order No. 159—Appointment of superior sanitary board.

[Translation—Department of Government—Decree No. 1.]

HAVANA, CUBA, *January 2, 1903.*

Assistant Surgeon Trotter reports the following:

"In virtue of the provisions of articles 1 and 3, first section of military order No. 159 (a), series of 1902, with the object of proceeding with the constitution of the superior sanitary board of the island of Cuba, and as proposed by the secretary of Government, I have to promulgate the following:

"Article 1. The nominations of the members of the superior sanitary board of the isle of Cuba, made under military order No. 179, of the date of March 18 last, being of a temporary character pending their approbation by the Government of the Republic, are hereby revoked.

"Art. 2. The following are appointed as active members of the superior sanitary board of the island of Cuba: Dr. Carlos J. Finlay, as chief of sanitation of the island; Dr. Joaquin L. Dueñas, as resident member in the city of Havana and in his capacity of president of the special commission of hygiene of the island of Cuba; Dr. Enrique B. Barnet, as resident member in the city of Havana, and Drs. Juan Guitéras and Ambrosio Grillo, representing the western and eastern parts of the

^a For military order No. 159, see PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS for June 13, 1902, page 1381.

island, respectively. Drs. Guitéras, Grillo, and Barnet will hold office for a period of two, three, and four years, respectively.

"Art. 3. The following persons, because of their official positions, are appointed as honorary members of the aforesaid superior sanitary board: Dr. Hugo Roberts, first physician of the port of Havana, and Dr. Joaquin L. Jacobsen, president of the league against tuberculosis. In representation of the respective corporations, Dr. Juan Santos Fernandez, for the academy of sciences of Havana; Dr. José Varela Zequeira, for the university; Dr. Gonzalo Arostegui, for the board of education, and Dr. José del Cueto y Pazos, professor of law, for the law faculty.

"Art. 4. The superior sanitary board of the island of Cuba will act as a dependency (bureau) of the department of Government (interior) in accordance with the provisions of decree No. 11, of this presidential office, dated May 20 last.

"Art. 5. The secretary of Government will dictate the necessary measures to give possession of the offices to the gentlemen appointed, and will propose what is deemed necessary to establish this dependency (bureau) and the offices of the superior sanitary board, in harmony with the fundamental law of the Republic.

"T. ESTRADA PALMA.

"EDUARDO YERO, *Secretary of Government.*"

EGYPT.

Management of the cholera epidemic.

Asst. Surg. Victor G. Heiser reports from Alexandria, January 6, as follows: The manner in which the epidemic was managed is very instructive and shows what may be accomplished when modern scientific measures are vigorously applied.

The first case of cholera was reported in the interior of Egypt, July 15, 1902. The disease spread rapidly to all parts of the country. The rapid spread is attributed to the fact that the facilities for getting about from place to place have improved very much since the last epidemic. By the middle of September there were more than 1,500 new cases per day. After that period, as the sanitary measures became perfected, there was a rapid decline in the number of cases. By December 1, the disease had been entirely stamped out, with the exception of a few cases at Alexandria and at a small number of the villages. By January there was only an occasional case at Alexandria. The total number of cases reported to date for all Egypt, was 39,892; total number died, 33,986; total number recovered, 5,906.

The general opinion among the sanitary authorities is that water and possibly a few food products are the only means by which the diseases were spread. The principal food products suspected are those which are generally washed with water, such as dates, lettuce, etc. It is not believed that the Nile was infected, or at least only locally here and there. Experiments made here recently seem to indicate that any running stream of the size of the Nile does not become sufficiently infected to convey such a disease as cholera. The experiments consisted in placing large numbers of the bacillus prodigiosus in running water and attempting to recover the organism a short distance below. The results were always negative. Of course the technical difficulties connected with an experiment of this kind must be borne in mind.